

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1944

Introduced by Assembly Member Hancock
(Principal coauthor: Senator Torlakson)

February 11, 2004

An act to amend Section 48205 of the Education Code, relating to pupils.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1944, as introduced, Hancock. Pupil attendance: precinct board membership.

Existing law authorizes a pupil to be excused from school for specified reasons, including for the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election. Existing law provides that excused absences for those specified reasons are, nevertheless, absences for the purpose of computing average daily attendance and do not generate state apportionment payments.

This bill would provide that an excused absence for the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election is not deemed an absence for the purpose of computing average daily attendance and will generate state apportionment payments.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 48205 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:

1 48205. (a) Notwithstanding Section 48200, a pupil shall be
2 excused from school ~~when~~ if the absence is *any of the following*:
3 (1) Due to his or her illness.
4 (2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city
5 health officer.
6 (3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometrical, or
7 chiropractic services rendered.
8 (4) For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a
9 member of his or her immediate family, ~~so long as~~ if the absence
10 is not more than one day if the service is conducted in California
11 ~~and~~ or not more than three days if the service is conducted outside
12 California.
13 (5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by
14 law.
15 (6) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school
16 hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.
17 (7) For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited
18 to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service,
19 observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion,
20 attendance at religious retreats, or attendance at an employment
21 conference, ~~when~~ if the ~~pupil's~~ *absence of the pupil* has been
22 requested in writing by ~~the~~ *his or her* parent or guardian and
23 approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant
24 to uniform standards established by the governing board *of the*
25 *school district*.
26 (8) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board
27 for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections Code.
28 *Notwithstanding subdivision (d), an absence authorized pursuant*
29 *to this paragraph is not an absence in computing average daily*
30 *attendance and shall generate state apportionment payments.*
31 (b) A pupil ~~absent~~ *whose absence* from school *is authorized*
32 *under this section* shall be allowed to complete all assignments and
33 tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided
34 and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of
35 time, shall be given full credit therefor. The teacher ~~of any class~~
36 ~~from which a pupil is absent~~ shall determine the tests and
37 assignments ~~shall be~~ *that are* reasonably equivalent to, but not
38 necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil
39 missed during the absence.

1 (c) For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats
2 shall not exceed four hours per semester.

3 (d) Absences *authorized* pursuant to this section are deemed to
4 be absences in computing average daily attendance and shall not
5 generate state apportionment payments.

6 (e) “Immediate family,” as used in this section, has the same
7 meaning as that set forth in Section 45194, except that references
8 therein to “employee” shall be deemed to be references to
9 “pupil.”

